

# PRESS RELEASE

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## For Immediate Release

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Codey Hoppe, 20, of Beloit, was sentenced yesterday by U.S. District Judge John C. Shabaz to five years in prison, without the possibility of parole, for possessing a firearm with an obliterated serial number. Hoppe pleaded guilty to this charge on October 4, 2007.

On December 19, 2005, Hoppe bought a .44 caliber firearm from an individual who had stolen a number of firearms from a hardware store in Baraboo. Prior to selling the stolen firearms, the burglar obliterated the serial numbers.

The charge against Hoppe was the result of an investigation conducted by the Beloit Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rita M. Rumbelow.

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